

CLAIM SET AS AMENDED

1. (Original) A protective barrier arrangement to be placed between a plant pot and the supporting surface which is adapted to be assembled into predetermined configuration depending on the size of the pot, comprising a plurality of plastic slat-like members of given height, width and length, each provided with assembling means for assembling the slat-like members in predetermined configuration, including a number of pegs and holes, whereby the number of pegs on one side of a slat-like member corresponds to a similarly arranged number of holes on the other side of the slat-like member, and wherein a further number of similarly arranged holes is provided on said one side which are disposed substantially symmetrically with respect to the transverse center plane of the slat-like member to permit rotation of each last lateral slat-like member to conceal and protect the pegs thereof.

2. (Original) A protective barrier arrangement according to claim 1, wherein said slat-like members are injection-molded parts.

3. (Original) A protective barrier arrangement according to claim 1, further comprising moisture-retaining means in the top surface of the slat-like member.

4. (Original) A protective barrier arrangement according to claim 3, wherein said moisture-retaining means is in the form of a depression in the top surface of the slat-like member.

5. (Original) A protective barrier arrangement according to claim 4, wherein said depression is substantially symmetrically shaped.

6. (Original) A protective barrier arrangement according to claim 4, wherein said depression has a shape resembling a triangle.

7. (Original) A protective barrier arrangement according to claim 4, wherein said depression has a curvilinear shape.

8. (Original) A protective barrier arrangement according to claim 4, wherein said depression extends over at least a substantial part of the length of a slat-like member.

9. (Original) A protective barrier arrangement according to claim 8, wherein said depression extends over substantially the entire length of a slat-like member and is closed at each end thereof.

10. (Original) A protective barrier arrangement according to claim 7, wherein said depression slants downward toward one end.

11. (Currently Amended) A protective barrier arrangement according to claim 10, wherein said depression forms a channel and is provided with means at said one end to drain said channel when the water level increases to a predetermined height.

12. (Original) A protective barrier arrangement according to claim 7, wherein said depression extends uninterruptedly from one end to the other and means are provided in the form of a small drainage hole at one end thereof to permit slow drainage at said one end.

13. (Original) A protective barrier arrangement according to claim 1, wherein the number of pegs and similarly arranged holes is at least two.

14. (Original) A protective barrier arrangement according to claim 1, wherein the number of pegs and similarly arranged holes is three.

15. (Previously Added) A protective barrier arrangement to be placed between a plant pot and the supporting surface which is adapted to be assembled into predetermined configuration depending on the size of the pot, comprising a plurality of plastic slat-like members having a top surface, a bottom surface and two side surfaces of given height, width and length, each provided with assembling means at the side surfaces for assembling the slat-like members in predetermined configuration, including a number of pegs and holes, whereby the exposed ends of the pegs have a length smaller than the width of a given slat-like member and whereby the number of pegs on one side of a slat-like member corresponds to a similarly arranged number of holes on the other side of the slat-like member, and wherein a further number of similarly arranged holes is provided on said one side which are disposed substantially symmetrically with respect to the transverse center plane of the slat-like member to permit rotation of each last lateral slat-like member to conceal and protect the pegs thereof.

16. (Previously Added) A protective barrier arrangement according to claim 15, wherein the depth of the holes in a given slat-like member is smaller than the width of the slat-like member.

17. (Previously Added) A protective barrier arrangement according to claim 15, further comprising moisture-retaining means in the top surface of the slat-like member and wherein said moisture-retaining means is in the form of a depression in the top surface of the slat-like member.

18. (Previously Amended) A protective barrier arrangement according to claim 17, wherein said depression slants downward toward one end and is provided with means at said one end to drain said channel.

19. (Previously Added) A protective barrier arrangement according to claim 1, wherein said pegs are of such length that the exposed length thereof is smaller than the width of a given slat-like member.